

Message Text

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22

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 SIL-01 LAB-04 /056 W

----- 102633

O 240840Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5017

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS JOHANNESBURG 1412

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS SF

SUBJECT: SOWETO WORK BOYCOTT

REF: JOHANNESBURG 1401

1. AT CLOSE OF DAY AUGUST 23, BLACK EMPLOYEE ABSENTEEISM AT JOHANNESBURG FIRMS REMAINED AT NEARLY 80 PERCENT THOUGH SOME SOWETO RESIDENTS CONTINUED TO APPEAR AT WORK UNTIL EARLY AFTERNOON. JOHANNESBURG STAR REPORTED THAT POLICE KILLED ONE MAN AND WOUNDED PERHAPS SIX OTHERS WHO WERE TRYING TO INTIMIDATE WORKERS AND PREVENT THEIR GOING INTO CITY. SOME ROADBLOCKS ERECTED BY STUDENTS AT SOWETO EXITS WERE QUICKLY REMOVED BY POLICE, WHO WERE EVIDENT EVERYWHERE IN FORCE. TEARGAS USED TO DISPERSE GROUPS AT PHEFENI. SEVERAL CASES OF ARSON REPORTED.

2. HANDBILLS WERE PLACED ON WALLS THROUGHOUT SOWETO CALLING FOR CONTINUANCE OF WORK BOYCOTT FOR THREE DAYS. AT SAME TIME, SOWETO STUDENTS REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL CALLED ON YOUNGER STUDENTS TO CONTINUE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. MAIN THREAT AGAINST INTENDING WORKERS WAS THAT FAILURE
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TO OBSERVE BOYCOTT WOULD MEAN THEIR HOUSES WOULD BE

BURNED DOWN "WITHIN DAYS."
JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Event:
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